

## **A boat in the family**

TREVOR Dodd met a large piece of family history this week on one of his trips home to Lynn from California. Along with his sister Pat Hart of Gaywood he took a good look at the Baden Powell, built in 1900 by their great grandfather Walter Worfolk. Their grandfather Gerald Worfolk was just a lad then, but was soon taken on by Walter as an apprentice, along with Gerald's brother William.

As a boy, Trevor spent many Saturday mornings at the Worfolk boatshed at Alexandra Dock, and remembers grandfather Gerald taking him to The Bentinck for an under-age beer or two.

"The boatshed was made of wood," Trevor remembers, "it was piled high with wood, there were wooden boats under construction, the floor was deep in wood shavings, and there was a wood-burning stove. I guess people were more careful and responsible then in the way they worked.

"The only power tools I ever saw were an electric circular saw and a planer. Otherwise it was all hand operated tools."

But the boat-building trade wasn't to be Trevor's career. He went away to boarding school, then to college in Salford, and his first job was computer operator for Jaeger – on Lynn's first computer installation. He was soon into programming and off to London. His career developed into project management and software development, and major computer companies were soon sending him all over the world.

Iran, Moscow during the cold war, South Korea, Sweden, Hong Kong and Singapore are all in his passport, and now, from home near Los Angeles, he travels the US all the time, looking after a number of computer applications.

"Two years ago when I was here I happened to hear from friends that there were moves to restore the Baden Powell, and my mother – she lives in Gaywood – told me that her grandfather had built it, and her father worked on it later.

"This time I wanted to find out more, so I had a good talk with Tim Clayton, who is leading the group of brave people progressing the restoration. And schoolfriend Chris Ward, another member of the restoration team, took me out to Terrington St John to see her. They have a lot to do, and I'll be checking them out on my next trip home."

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